REVISED Letter of Intent to Apply for Early Graduation

April 2016

Copies of this signed Intent should be kept in the student's cumulative folder and a copy given to the student for their records. (Do not load into the ILP)

Senate Bill 61, passed during the 2013 Kentucky General Assembly, provides a pathway to early graduation for students who intend to complete high school in three academic years or less. Beginning with the 2014-2015 academic year, students who complete the Early Graduation requirements (see below) may receive a diploma from their district. Students who graduate in three years or less are also eligible for an Early Graduation Certificate, (a one-time scholarship) which they may use the year immediately following high school graduation when enrolling in a SACS accredited Kentucky two- or four- year institute of higher education.

Clarifying Points:

- The statutory changes and regulation went into effect in the 2014-2015 academic year.
- Early Graduation is defined as a student meeting the performance criteria outlined in 704 KAR 3:305 Section 9 (2) and doing so in three years or less from the date of first enrolling in grade nine.
- Students must have been in high school three years or less- according to COHORT YEAR, not grade level.
- To meet the criteria, students that intend to graduate early must meet minimum proficiency benchmarks on the four End of Course exams required for state accountability and meet CPE college ready benchmarks for the ACT. ONLY the ACT will meet the requirements for Early Graduation.
- A student who wishes to graduate early must complete a *Letter of Intent to Apply for Early Graduation* within the first 30 days of the academic year in which they want to graduate and the information must be entered into Infinite Campus no later than October 1st of the academic year they intend to graduate. **There are no exceptions for the October 1st deadline.**
- Students should complete the online Survey for Student Success as part of application process (the link to the survey is found later in the Intent)
- Students may take their one state supported college readiness exam, the ACT earlier than their junior or senior year, as provided by the regulation in Section 9 (3).
- Early Graduation students require consistent monitoring and counseling to ensure they are on track to complete the early graduation requirement. The ILP should be completed and regular meetings between the student, family and counselor should monitor and update student progress as required in Section 4 of 704 KAR 3:305.
- The *Letter of Intent* is not binding; students may revert to regular student enrollment with the knowledge they have to meet the District's minimum requirements and that they <u>will not</u> be eligible for the Early Graduation Certificate.

Incentives:

1) A student who meets the Early Graduation requirements in 704 KAR 3:305 shall earn an Early Graduation Certificate or Scholarship to be provided by KHEAA, and will be eligible for a one time scholarship award to be used at a Kentucky two- or four-year public or independent non-profit SAC's accredited college or university the year immediately following high school graduation. The award shall be equal to one-half (1/2) of the SEEK statewide per pupil guarantee for one year.
2) Students who graduate from high school in three years may also receive a Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) award equivalent to completing high school in four years.

Letter of Intent to Apply for Early Graduation
Intended Graduation Year _____

Student name	
SSID#	
SS# (for KEES verification)	
Date of Birth	
Parent/Guardian name	
Permanent Mailing Address	
City, State, Zip code	
Parent phone number	
Parent email address	

High School Name:	District:
Principal:	School Mailing Address:

Date student entered high school (MM/DD/YEAR) _____

Date student intends to graduate early (MM/DD/YEAR) _____

Assurances: (Guardian and student initial each statement)

_____ I have taken the online Student Success Survey (Student will need to create a Google account to access survey). Survey link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FKBGZ7G

_____ I have read and understood the attached information regarding Early Graduation.

_____ I understand that this Intent to pursue Early Graduation is an accelerated pathway and **I intend to meet the academic criteria**, **including EOC and ACT scores** and timeline of the intent, graduating within three years of entry into high school. By meeting these requirements, I am eligible for the Early Graduation Certificate (scholarship) and a diploma.

_____ I understand that, should I attain Early Graduation and be awarded an Early Graduation Certificate scholarship, it is my responsibility to provide additional information to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) in order to have funds sent to my college or university.

_____ I understand that failure to meet the Early Graduation criteria or timeline will result in having to complete the regular minimum requirements for high school, and forfeiture of the Early Graduation Certificate or Scholarship.

_____ I understand that if I intend to and attain Early Graduation, the Intent is not binding and I may choose to remain in high school to pursue available opportunities. However, I understand that by remaining in high school, I forfeit the Early Graduation Certificate or Scholarship.

Signatures: (print name and sign)

Student _____   Date _____

_____

Parent/Guardian _____   Date _____

_____

Principal _____   Date _____

_____

Superintendent _____   Date _____

(Districts may add signature lines as needed)

If this student transfers to another Kentucky high school before completing Early Graduation, the Early Graduation information must be moved in Infinite Campus and a counselor at the new school must be assigned to flag the student and monitor the student's progress.

Date moved_____

School, District_____

Date entered into IC_____

By (print name and sign) _____

Current CPE AND KDE benchmarks for meeting CCR for Early Graduation

End of Course	Date EOC taken		Score	
Algebra II (148 or above)				
Biology (154 or above)				
English II (154 or above)				
US History (147 or above)				
Scores can come from different administrations	Date taken	English Score	Reading Score	Math Score
ACT		(18)	(20)	(19)